

WEST WOODS GOLF CLUB

COMMON RULES

There has been many changes to the rules of golf beginning Jan 2019.

(Please refer to the **USGA Rules of Golf**, as well as the **USGA Decisions on the Rules of Golf**, for more detail.)

Below are short descriptions of some of the more significant changes:

- No penalty for accidentally moving your ball during search.
- No penalty for accidentally moving your ball or ball-marker on the putting green.
- No penalty if your ball in motion is accidentally deflected by you, your equipment, or your caddie. This includes the notorious “double hit”.
- Your relief area for dropping a ball is a fixed size of either one or two club-lengths using the longest club in your bag, other than your putter.
- Your ball must be let go from knee height and fall through the air without touching any part of your body or equipment.
- Your ball must come to rest in the relief area where it was dropped, or else it must be redropped.
- Your ball is lost if not found in three minutes (rather than the previous five minutes).
- You may always substitute a ball when taking relief.
- Relief allowed without penalty for an embedded ball anywhere (except in sand) in the “general area” (a new term for “through the green”).
- In taking lateral relief, drop within two club-lengths of where your ball entered the penalty area. The size of a club-length is always measured using the longest club in your bag, other than your putter.
- One of your options for relief from either a red or yellow penalty area is called back-on-the-line relief.
- After your ball has been lifted and replaced, if it then moves, always replace it on its original spot even if it was blown by the wind or moved for no clear reason.
- Repair of almost any damage is allowed on the putting green (including spike marks and animal damage)(but not aeration holes).
- No penalty for touching your line of play on the putting green so long as doing so does not improve the conditions for your stroke.
- No penalty if your ball played from the putting green (or anywhere else) hits the unattended flagstick in the hole.
- Areas of desert, jungle, lava rock, etc. (in addition to areas of water) may now be marked as red or yellow “penalty areas.”
- No penalty for moving loose impediments, touching the ground, or grounding your club in a penalty area, penalty if ball moves.
- Committees have the discretion to mark any penalty area as red so that lateral relief is always allowed.
- Relief from a red penalty area no longer allowed on the opposite side from where the ball last entered the penalty area.
- Relaxed Rules relating to loose impediments and touching the ground in a bunker (**not** during stroke).
- Relief allowed outside a bunker for an unplayable ball for two penalty strokes.
- A club damaged during a round can continue to be used, even if you damaged it in anger.
- You do not get free relief from immovable obstruction (cart path, sprinkler head) if your ball is unplayable (i.e. in a bush).(Rule 16.1a)

WEST WOODS GOLF CLUB LOCAL RULE CHANGES FOR 2019

From time to time the CGA and/or the USGA has toured West Woods and made recommendations for changes in how the course is marked. These recommended changes are usually implemented without notice to the regular golfers or public and some holes can have significant changes. As always, if the course is marked differently than described in this document, play the course as marked. The exception to this will be if the West Woods Men’s Club makes specific local rules. Most recently red and yellow stakes have been replaced with red and yellow paint.

WEST WOODS GOLF CLUB HOLE-BY-HOLE RULES OF GOLF

SLEEPING INDIAN COURSE

- #1:** All boundary fences on the course (including the one that runs along the left side of this hole) are out of bounds (see Rule #27). A ball that lands on the driving range is playable, but a provisional ball may be advisable if there are many range balls in the vicinity where the ball in play came to rest (proceed under lost ball, rule #27). The sidewalk behind the green is out of bounds.
- #2:** Out of bounds fence on the left and **red penalty area** along the right.
- #3:** Out of bounds fence along the left and two **red penalty areas** along the right. **Behind the green is not marked RED. You may have to re-hit.**
- #4:** Yellow penalty area in front of tee boxes. Two red penalty areas along the right side. **Bushes along left side are now marked as Red Penalty Area. As of April 2015, red stakes have been replaced behind the green.**
- #5:** Creek in front of tee box is yellow penalty area. Out of bounds fence on both left and right sides of hole, as well as behind green.
- #6:** Out of bounds fence along right side. Sidewalk (past cart path) on left side of green is out of bounds. A ball crossing the road and landing on the other side of the road is still out of bounds (local WW rule).
- #7:** Creek in front of tee box is yellow penalty area. **The left side of the fairway (from the bridge to the green and behind) is marked as a Red Penalty Area. If you hit is left of the bridge (does not cross Red line) you are OB.**
- Red penalty area exists over this green. If you hit a ball over this green, you need to find a place to drop that is no closer to the hole from where the ball crossed the margin of the penalty area. Out of bounds fence along right side.**
- #8:** Creek and lake in front of tee box is yellow penalty area. Sidewalk on left is out of bounds (cart path is not OB). If a ball crosses the road and lands on other side, it is still OB. **There are doubled Yellow and Red penalty areas along right side of this hole. From near the bunker and beyond the stakes are Red only. The Yellow stakes are active from the Copper & Iron tees (drop behind the penalty area or re-tee). The Red stakes are active from the Silver & Gold tees (drop within 2 club lengths from where ball crossed the margin of the penalty area).**
- #9:** Out of bounds fence along left side. Sidewalk on the left is OB, cart path is not, and a ball crossing the road is OB. A ball on the driving range is playable (see notes for hole #1). Lake on the right is red penalty area.

COTTONWOOD COURSE

- #10:** Lake on left is red penalty area. Out of bounds fence on the right and behind the green. A line drawn connecting the fences across the cart path heading toward #11 also defines out of bounds.
- #11:** Out of bounds along the entire right side of the hole is defined by the left edge of the dirt path along the creek: the entire dirt path and creek are considered OB. Out of bounds fence along left side. Lake on left is a red penalty area.
- #12:** Out of bounds fence along right side. Lake on left is a red penalty area.
- #13:** Out of bounds fence along left side. The right side is a red penalty area. **The dirt road behind the green is Out-of-Bounds. Play a provisional ball if you hit over the green.**
- #14:** Out of bounds fence along left side. The lakes are all red penalty areas.
- #15:** Lake on the right is red penalty area. **Left is OB at the fence.**
- #16:** Lake on the right is red penalty area. **Left of the cart path (all the way to the green) is now marked Out-of-Bounds. The final OB stake is at the bridge. If you hit a ball into this area (from tee or fairway), hit a provisional. The dirt road over this green is Out-of-Bounds. If you hit a ball over this green, you should hit a provisional as the ball may be OB.**
- #17:** Out of bounds fence along right side. **Left of the cart path (all the way to the green) is now marked Out-of-Bounds (this could change in 2019, play as marked). The final OB stake is across the cart path in the bushes. If you hit a ball into this area, hit a provisional. Bushes by the large tree near the green have been removed. But a ball landing there may still be lost/unplayable/OB. Hit a provisional and be aware of your drop options.**
- #18:** The lakes are all red penalty areas (good place to know your drop options). Out of bounds fences along right and left sides.

SILO COURSE

- #19:** The parking lot is OB. The lakes are all red penalty areas. The island between the lakes is inside the red penalty area, so all applicable rules come into play. The sidewalk behind the green is OB, and any ball that crosses the road is also OB.
- #20:** Out of bounds fences along right and left sides. **Left of the cart path can have long grass and easily cause a ball to be lost. Behind the green may also be out-of-bounds. Play a provisional ball in both cases.**
- #21:** **Creek in front of tee box is a yellow penalty area. The lake on left and creek on right are red penalty areas.** Out of bounds fence is along the left side. Grass bunkers on left side of fairway about 150 yards from green may have long grass and the ball may be lost. Hit a provisional.
- #22:** Creek in front of tee box is a yellow penalty area. The lakes to left and right are red penalty areas. **A split rail fence has been added left of the cart path past the lake. Be aware of your drop options concerning the cart path and the fence (Rule #16).**
- #23:** **(“Silo” hole)** Be aware of stake colors marking penalty areas off the tee box! Yellow, red, and white OB (to left) are all in play from the tee. Your drop procedure depends on which margin your ball crossed. **The tree and native grass area left of bunkers is NOT a staked penalty area. Provisional ball (see Rule #18.3) may be in order. The Silo itself is deemed to be an integral part of the course. Therefore, if a ball lands in it or next to it, you may play as it lies or proceed under the “unplayable” rule (rule #19), but you CANNOT get free relief from the Silo as an “obstruction”. It is advisable to play a provisional ball if your shot goes into the native area –those can be difficult to find. The fence behind the green is OB.**
- #24:** **(“Double-ditch” hole)** Creeks could be yellow or red penalty areas. Look for stakes to determine which. **The area left of the cart path is not staked. The tree grove beyond the cart path as it curves right is not staked. Play a provisional. The native grass area between #23 & #24 is not a penalty area. It is advisable to play a provisional ball if your ball goes into the native area.** Behind the green to left is red penalty area.
- #25:** Lake on the right is red penalty area. Left side near the green is red penalty area. **The drainage pipe in the grass ravine left of the fairway is considered an immovable obstruction (See Rule #16 for relief). Behind the green is not a penalty area. Play a provisional ball if you hit over the green.**
- #26:** Left side is red penalty area. The creek from the bridge to the big tree is marked yellow penalty area. A shot right into #21 fairway may enter lake (red penalty area) on that hole. Look for stakes to determine which margin your ball crossed if lost in any of the penalty areas. Fence to right past creek is OB.
- #27:** Out of bounds fences along right and left sides. Parking lot is OB.